

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5134

INFO USMISSION USUNNY

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, UN, AR

SUBJECT: UN REGIONAL SEMINAR ON THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN

1. SEMINAR CONCLUDED FINAL SEESION 31 MARCH, 11 PM, AFTER 13 HOURS CONTINUOUS DEBATE, 7 DEVOTED TO THE MANNER IN WHICH CERDS, NIEO AND DECLARATION OF MEXICO WOULD BE NOTED IN NEW DRAFT PREAMBLE FOR SEMINAR CONCLUSIONS. AFTER UNSUCCESSFUL US EFFORT TO PUT THE MATTER TO A VOTE, THE FORMULATION ACCEPTED BY CONSENSUS OF THE SEMINAR ELIMINATED ALL REFERENCES TO DECLARATION OF MEXICO, CERDS AND NIEO, AND INCORPORATED US WORDING FOR "A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER", WITHOUT CAPS. HOWEVER, OTHER REFERENCES TO SOME OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE 30TH GA WERE ADDED INCLUDING ONE US SPONSORED RESOLUTION 3505, AND G.A. RES 3201, 3202, 3202, 3281, 3362 (S-VII) AND THE WORLD PLAN OF ACTION.

2. SEMINAR AGREED TO OPERATE ON BASIS OF CONSENSUS TO AVOID A VOTE AND TO AVOID INCLUSION OF MINORITY RESERVATIONS IN THE REPORT. OTHERWISE, THE MEXICAN DELEGATION WOULD HAVE FILED RESERVATIONS OVER THE ELIMINATION OF REFERENCES TO CERDS, NIEO AND THE DECLARATION OF MEXICO, AND THE US WOULD HAVE FILED RESERVATIONS TO INCLUSION OF SOME OBJECTIONABLE GA RESOLUTIONS LISTED ABOVE. NO ABSTENTIONS POSSIBLE IN THIS SITUATION. UN

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SECRETARIAT POINTED OUT THAT SEMINARS DIFFER FROM CONFERENCES

IN THAT, ALTHOUGH NAMED BY GOVERNMENTS, PARTICIPANTS SERVE AS EXPERTS IN THEIR PRIVATE CAPACITY AND CONCLUSIONS ARE NOT CONSIDERED TO BE BINDING ON GOVERNMENTS.

3. THE REVERSES SUFFERED BY MEXICO CAME AS RESULT OF MAJOR BREAK IN LATIN SOLIDARITY RE CERD NIEO EVEN THOUGH ALL GOVERNMENTS PRESENT WITH EXCEPTION OF US, HAVE ENDORSED NIEO, CERD AND DECLARATION. IT FOLLOWED A BITTER ATTACK BY THE VENEZUELANS ON THE MEXICANS BECAUSE OF THE OFFENSIVE AND AGGRESSIVE MANNER IN WHICH THE MEXICANS HAD PRESSED THEIR CASE BY RESORTING TO UNTRUTHS AND HALF-TRUTHS CONCERNING FAILURE OF NIEO OR CERDS TO MENTION WORD "WOMEN", AND IN MEXICAN QUESTIONING THE COMPETENCE OF THE PARTICIPANTS TO DISCUSS UN MATTERS.

4. THE REPORT WILL BE TREATED AS OPINIONS OF PRIVATE EXPERT GROUP; HOWEVER, REVISED WORDING PRESENTS SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS OVER PREVIOUS FORMULATION WITH REGARD TO ELIMINATION OF REFERENCES TO NIEO, CERDS AND DECLARATION. THE US DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT WE CAN LIVE WITH THIS FORMULATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SEMINAR, SINCE THEY NOW ENABLE THE US TO PLAY MAJOR ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LA REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION PRIOR TO HAVANA-ECLA MEETING. GROUP OF EXPERTS WILL NOW DRAFT LA ACTION PLAN PRIOR TO THE END OF 1976. PROMPT GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY IO/CMD IN MODIFYING ORIGINAL TEXT APPRECIATED. ABSTENTION NOT POSSIBLE IN CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED ABOVE. ROUND-UP FOLLOWS.

5. FOLLOWING IS NEW TEXT AS IT APPEARS IN THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE REPORT:

"GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS: THE SEMINAR REAFFIRMS THE THESIS'S SUPPORTED BY THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR, IN THE SENSE THAT THE CONDITION OF WOMEN CANNOT BE DETACHED FROM THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS.

"IT LIKEWISE RECOGNIZES THAT THE EXISTING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL SITUATION HINDERS THE FULL UTILIZATION OF THE HUMAN AND MATERIAL POTENTIAL IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS, AND IT IS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO SEEK WAYS OF CHANGING EXISTING CONDITIONS IN THE REGION.

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"IN THE SAME WAY, THE SEMINAR CONSIDERS THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER (GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS, 3505 (XXX), 3201 (S.VI), 3202 (S.VI), 3281 (XXIX) AND 3362 (S.VII) AS WELL AS SOME OF THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS AT ITS THIRTIETH SESSION, AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORLD PLAN OF ACTION SUPPORT FUNDAMENTAL STRUCTURAL CHANGES TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES PROPOSED FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR: EQUAITY, DEVELOPMENT,

PEACE, ADOPTED AT THE WORLD CONFERENCE IN MEXICO CITY, JUNE 1975.

"AT THE SAME TIME, ON REAFFIRMING THE URGENT NEED TO IMPROVE
THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND ON RECOGNIZING THAT THEY SHOULD BE
PROVIDED WITH THE APPROPRIATE MEANS AND MACHINERY FOR THEIR
ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE INDISPENSABLE INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT
OF THEIR REGIONS, AS LAID DOWN IN THE IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS
APPROVED AT THE CONFERENCE, THE SEMINAR REACHED THE FOLLOWING
CONCLUSIONS:"

6. IO/LABW PLEASE INFORM JOAN GOODIN OF CONTENTS AND TEXT OF
NEW PREAMBULAR PARA.
HILL

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